

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 14 of page 23 with the following amended paragraph:

In the event of a successful check, the fourth optical label switching router 112D uses the information included in the Label Request message to form a mapping of connections from the third optical label switching router 112C to connections to the remote service network node 102H. The fourth optical label switching router 112D subsequently sends a Label Mapping message to third optical label switching router 112C. Such a Label Mapping message includes a label associating the channel group with the specific connections to which each of the channels in the channel group have been allocated at the fourth optical label switching router 112D. Upon receipt of the Label Mapping message from the fourth optical label switching router 112D, the third optical label switching router 112C performs a mapping and sends a Label Mapping message to the second optical label switching router 112B. Upon receipt of the Label Mapping message from the third optical label switching router 112C, the second optical label switching router ~~112C~~ 112B performs a mapping and sends a Label Mapping message to the first optical label switching router 112A, where the set up of the optical label switched path is considered to be complete.